



PATENT
Docket No.: 2565/56

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP ART UNIT 3763**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Martin LAUER
SERIAL NO. : 09/342,017
FILED : June 28, 1999
FOR : CONNECTOR ELEMENT WITH A SEALING PART
GROUP ART UNIT : 3763
EXAMINER : Michael J. Hayes

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on
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Signature: Thomas C. Hughes

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SIR:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 9, 2004, Applicants submit the following amendments.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.